

## Saint James the Greater



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### **From the Pastor....food for thought.**

Dear Jaguars,

Communication and teamwork are essential to promoting student success. St James has been reviewing and improving the quality of communication to parents and parishioners throughout this past summer and semester. Please let us know if you have suggestions to continue the improvement of our communication platform. Over the last few weeks and months, St. James established a new website, purchased a text message notification program through Flocknote, and modified the look and content of the frequent newsletters.

It is always good for all of us to review our means and content of communication. Honesty, integrity, goodness and love are the most essential elements in communication. Pope Francis often speaks of those elements that introduce division, rather than harmony in communication. For example, the Holy Father equated gossip terrorism, because it is the great enemy of harmony. It is true that gossip strikes at the very fabric of a community.

We are blessed to have a great environment here, and we want to thank you for your continued efforts to help us maintain an environment that is holy and healthy. If you ever have concerns or advise, please feel free to bring it to the administrators, teacher, principal, and pastor. Our goal is to provide an open door policy, so that we might truly listen to one another.

What we are witnessing in our world today is a complete breakdown in communication. The lines have been severed when we cannot truly listen to one another, even if we do not agree. It is sad to see the lack of harmony in our culture. Let us forge ahead to be a light for others, and help our students to see the value of integrity and forthrightness.

With my warmest regards, and pledge of prayers,

Fr. John N. Hay

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St. James Citizenship Education Program

St. James Catholic School has reignited the Soft Skills Program. In this newsletter we are listing the topics to be covered within the first three weeks. Please consider reviewing these with your child(ren) at home! Teachers will also facilitate this by using elements from the program in the classroom.

**ST. JAMES CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**I. TOPICS TO BE COVERED**

***Week of 10/29/2018***

***How to make introductions, be hospitable, and treat all as Christ:***

- A. Introducing people in a polite way...***
- B. How to reacquaint among friends, and introduce new friends...***
- C. Child is introduced to the adult; we say the name of the older person first...***
- D. Couples are introduced as “Mr.” and “Ms.” or “Mrs.”...***
- E. How to respectfully shake hands...***
- F. Introduce first and last name and/or correct title...***

***Week of 11/5/2018***

***Learning that manners are not just about being polite, but about charity:***

- A. In movies or in a crowd of people and when you cross in front of people...***
- B. When two people are talking to go around, as opposed to walking between them and interrupting them...***
- C. Rather than ignoring natural noises of the body, to acknowledge them: excuse me...***
- D. When it is appropriate to use a cellphone, table manners, how to request being excused...***
- E. To say “please” and “thank you”...***

***Week of 11/12/2018***

***Traditional elements of civility, chivalry and good manners:***

- A. Opening doors for others (and that men commonly open the doors for women out of respect)...***
- B. Go beyond the minimum, try to outdo each in charity, as St. Paul says. Encourage children to open the door for adults...***
- C. Greet people as they enter the doorway... and to say “welcome”...***
- D. Say thank you as you pass through the door***

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**All School Announcements:**



- NO BUSES ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> AND 26<sup>TH</sup>
- **CALENDAR CHANGE:** THERE WILL BE SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY, WHICH IS ALSO A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.
- **NOVEMBER 1:** THERE WILL BE AN ALL SCHOOL MASS
- **Kindergarten & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Buddies will go to the Pumpkin Patch – Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, leaving after Holy Mass and still until 12:30pm**
- **Parent/Grandparent/Visitors:** Please make sure to check-in and to check-out of the school office before proceeding to the classrooms or anywhere in the school, such as the lunchroom.  
You will also need to get a visitor's sticker to wear while you are in the building. Please let anyone who might be visiting the school know about this policy.
- Missed Our Picture Day? All retakes or missed pictures from the first Picture Day will be taken on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Pictures will be taken from 10:45am to 12:00 pm. If you plan to take retakes, you will need to bring back the original photos to the School Office ASAP! If your child missed the first picture date and you would like to order individual pictures, please get with Wendy in the school office to get an order form.

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**THANK YOU!!!**

A special thank you to our Ag Day field trip drivers: **MONICA LICHLYTER, KELLY MCCLURE, KATI RENVILLE, and MIKE SMITH.**

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## FALL PARADE/PARTY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1:30-1:50 p.m. | Students change into costumes (no early arrivals please).            |
| 1:50-2:45 p.m. | Start parading around classrooms and then to Lake Point Nursing Home |
| 2:45-3:10 p.m. | Classroom Parties  |

If your child(ren) dress-up for the Fall Parade please use sound judgment in costumes. **Please, no toy guns, knives, swords, etc.** We know that the dress and costumes reflect not only the dignity of the person wearing them, but also reflects on the family and school. Last year during the Fall Party the St. James children and parents had a good time and great costumes. We hope for another successful Fall Parade and

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**LUNCH PAYMENTS ONLINE: St. James can now accept payments online for lunch payments and other school fees. Please make these payments from the school website (and not the parish website). The School website is [school.saintjamesaugusta.com](http://school.saintjamesaugusta.com).**

Once you click the payments tab, you will be able to select the item you wish to pay for, and please call me if you have any questions at 775-5721!

Thanks, Wendy Becker, School Office Manager

### Learning more about our middle school teacher, Mrs. Cathy Phillips

**Grades Taught Previously:** 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grades Mathematics

**Where did you get your degree(s)?** Wichita State University

**Do you have any children/grandchildren?** 3 children- Elliot, Amanda, and Isaac; and 1 grandson – Garrett

**How do you spend your spare time?** I love to engage in activities with my family, especially playing puzzle games. I also enjoy reading.

**What quality do you most like about yourself?** That my smile reflects the kindness I hope to show to every person.

**What kind of music do you enjoy?** Contemporary, Country and Classical

**What is your all-time favorite movie?** “Twister”

**What is your all-time favorite TV show:** “All About Me”

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**What is your favorite place that you have visited?** South Carolina

**Fill in the blank! When I was little, I wanted to be...** Marie Osmond

**What's the most important lesson you have ever learned?** That my parent's advice was always good advice.

**What is your life's motto?** Put all your worries in God's hands, he will lead you in the right direction!

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### **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

One of our school service projects for the year is collecting, cutting, and counting labels from Box Tops for Education, Best Choice labels and Tyson A+ labels! If you have been saving them, there are collection bins in front of the school office and in the church foyer. Box Tops are worth 10 cents each. **We are also collecting pop tabs (those little aluminum tabs that help open aluminum pop cans) to help the Ronald McDonald House in Wichita.** Please help out our school and others by saving what you can! **Note: Bonus Boxtops have an expiration date. Please turn those in as soon as possible.**

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### **VIRTUS PROGRAM – PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN**

What does it mean to be *Virtus* certified? *Virtus* is a program to help us become more aware of the signs of abuse whenever we see them, as well as a program to foster healthy environments. After completing the program, monthly bulletins are provided for ongoing formation. *Virtus Protecting God's Children* is also an age-appropriate effort to help our students recognize inappropriate behavior and how best to respond to it, and report it.

### **CHECK GRADES THROUGH POWER SCHOOL**

You and your child/ren may check grades, attendance, and register for email notifications with varying detail (all parents should currently be signed up for email notifications...if you are not receiving them, please let me know). You can find the way to PowerSchool by going to the school website: [school.saintjamesaugusta.com](http://school.saintjamesaugusta.com)

It will tell you that you will need to set up a parent login/password (each parent can set up their own account). The instructions on how to set up your single sign-on were sent home in September in the family registration and enrollment folder, along with the access #'s you

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need for each of child. You will only need one account regardless of the number of children registered. If you have a new child to St. James this year...just go into your established account and add him/her. **WE WOULD LIKE ALL PARENTS TO BE SIGNED UP FOR THE PARENT PORTAL...SO PLEASE DO THIS A.S.A.P.** Teachers update their grades weekly.

If you have any questions about your login or general questions about PowerSchool, please contact Wendy in the school office. There is also the Power School Mobile App that can be downloaded for your mobile device. Thank you for your cooperation!

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**

- Mon. October 22<sup>nd</sup>** Blue Knights Club 3:15pm  
School Council Meeting 5:30pm
- Fri. October 26<sup>th</sup>** Pumpkin Patch Kindergarten & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Middle School Retreat at Father John's parent's farm
- Wed. October 31<sup>st</sup>** Fall Parties
- Thur. November 1<sup>st</sup>** **SCHOOL IS IN SESSION**  
Holy Day – All Saints' Day  
Bike Safety Presentation for K-8<sup>th</sup> grades
- Wed. November 7<sup>th</sup>** White Heart Rosary  
Lifetouch Picture Retakes
- Fri. November 9<sup>th</sup>** Teacher Lunch Out  
Middle School Retreat at Camp Tawakoni
- Sat. November 10<sup>th</sup>** Playa Azul Fundraiser  
10% of proceeds go to St. James if you announce you are from St. James Catholic School or St. James Catholic Church
- Mon. November 12<sup>th</sup>** Little Flower Girls Club
- Tue. November 13<sup>th</sup>** Friends of Augusta Student of the Month Lunch
- Wed. November 14<sup>th</sup>** NUT Day
- Thur. November 15<sup>th</sup>** Religion Quiz Bowl at Holy Cross Catholic School in Hutchinson
- Fri. November 16<sup>th</sup>** Kindergarten Thanksgiving Play  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade and Middle School Retreat at Father John's parent's farm
- Monday-Friday**  
**November 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> NO SCHOOL**  
Teacher In-Service and Thanksgiving Break
- Mon. November 26<sup>th</sup>** Blue Knights Boys Club 3:15pm
- Tue. November 27<sup>th</sup>** P.T.O. Meeting 1:00pm

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## NOVEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

**TAYLOR BARRINGER** has been selected as the Friends of Augusta November Student of the Month. **Taylor** is determined that she is going to work diligently on her Math Fluency sheets this year so she can attend the field trip. **Taylor** is a diligent worker, an excellent citizen, and a joy to have in our school. She is also an excellent example of a good Christian as well.

St. James Catholic School is GRATEFUL and PROUD to have **Taylor** as a student here and to select her as the St. James Student of the Month for November.

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

It has definitely been a very busy and active first nine weeks. St. James Catholic School Staff wish to thank you and the P.T.A. for the support in making this school year get off to a fantastic start! Thank you!!! If you have any concerns, please contact the respective teacher or feel free to come by and see me. We pray that your continued prayers, kindness and support, which will make the second quarter even better. The staff and I are pleased with how our school year is progressing. Our volunteers are amazing, and deserve our gratitude, and there are too many to enumerate.

We are continuing to work with the school council, pastor, parents, teachers and parishioners for the advancement of our school. St. James is working to ensure that our students achieve success, not only academically, but to become the best person they can be.

The Diocesan Catholic Schools Office and I want to remind everyone, that St. James and all Catholic schools are Catholic, first and foremost. And we believe, with the Church, that a Catholic education is one of the most precious gifts we can give to our children. The Catholic environment here is amazing and continually being enhanced. This is a place where *we love to learn and learn to love*.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate All Saints' Day. Each day we have approximately 124 students who pass through the portals of our Church, to help prepare their *minds for a lifetime and souls for eternity*. We are here to encourage our children to be constant learners in their academics and catholic spirituality.

In November, the month of Poor Souls, we should reflect on our lives here on earth, as well as the Poor Souls that are waiting in Purgatory to move on to eternal life with Jesus. It's also a time to reflect on our family and friends who have died and ask God to receive them into the fullness of the life of heaven!

As we pray for the relief of the Poor Souls in Purgatory, that they will soon enjoy their deserved blessedness, we continue in our journey to greater confidence in the work of grace, that we might become the person Christ calls us to be.

I also, beg for your prayers, be assured of my prayers of thanksgiving for you and your family, and also my prayers of thanksgiving for your generous support of St. James Catholic School mission to *form minds for a lifetime and souls for eternity* and to foster an environment that *loves to learn and learns*

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*to love.* May the Mother of Perpetual Help watch over us all, so that we too, one day, might arrive home in the eternal joy of our Father's Heavenly Kingdom.

Yours in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

Richard Guy – Principal  
St. James Catholic School

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

St. James Catholic School would like to install lockers in the main hallway. If any parent(s) would like to assist, please contact the school office.

### **SPECIAL FIELD TRIP TO THE HAY FAMILY FARM**

All 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students will have the opportunity to take a field trip to the Hay Family Farm with Fr. John. If possible, try to take this day off, and go with us on the field trip. Father would like for as many parents to come too, and spend this day together.

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